

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 SY-04 L-02 H-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 PA-01 PRS-01

USIE-00 FBIE-00 PPT-01 /034 W
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O 121405Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1942

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 0628

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPRS CASC PFOR YO (BENTLEY, GLORIA AND WATERMAN, ANN)

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF AMERICAN CITIZENS

REF: BELGRADE 613, STATE 31338 AND PREVIOUS

1. FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS USED BY EMBASSY SPOKESMAN
IN RESPONDING TO QUERY BY WASHINGTON POST CORRESPONDENT DUSKO
DODER, AND NY TIMES MAN MALCOLM BROWNE:

2. QUOTE: THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT TWO AMERICAN
CITIZENS, MRS. GLORIA BENTLEY, 50 AND OPERA SINGER WHO IS ALSO
KNOWN UNDER HER STAGE NAME, GLORIA LIND, OF 536 NORTH CENTRAL,
HIGHWOOD, ILLINOIS, AND MISS ANN WATERMAN, 31, ALSO A SINGER
TRAVELLING WITH MRS. BENTLEY, AND WHO RESIDES AT 334 BUTTERFIELD
STREET, ANSELMO, CALIFORNIA, WERE DETAINED BY YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES
ON FEBRUARY 10 AFTER ENTERING YUGOSLAVIA BY CAR FROM ROMANIA.
THEIR PASSPORTS ARE BEING HELD BY NOVI SAD POLICE AUTHORITIES
WHO HAVE ASKED THEM TO REMAIN IN A HOTEL IN THAT CITY.

3. MRS. BENTLEY IS ACCOMPANIED BY HER DAUGHTER MARY KAY BENTLEY,
AGE 9, AND HER PARENTS, MRS. AND MR. DOMINIC LINARI, NONE OF
WHOM ARE BEING DETAINED.

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4. ACCORDING TO MRS. BENTLEY AND MISS WATERMAN, AN INVESTIGATION

IS UNDERWAY REGARDING THE ALLEGED IMPORTATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS HOSTILE TO YUGOSLAVIA.

5. OUR CONSUL HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH BOTH MRS. BENTLEY AND MISS WATERMAN BY TELEPHONE AND HAS VISITED THEM IN NOVI SAD. IN ADDITION, THE EMBASSY HAS CONTACTED CONSULAR AND OTHER OFFICIALS IN THE FEDERAL SECRETARIAT FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO CLARIFY THE SITUATION. AT THE MOMENT, NO CHARGES HAVE BEEN FILED, BUT IT HAS BEEN INDICATED THAT AN INVESTIGATION IS UNDERWAY BY POLICE AUTHORITIES IN NOVI SAD. UNQUOTE.
TOON

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